CLAIMS

- [1] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, characterized by having a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case.
- [2] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, characterized by having a nickel plating layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case.
- [3] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case.
- [4] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer, a nickel layer formed as an intermediate layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case.
- [5] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 2 $\,\mu m$.

[6] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

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- [7] A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.
- [8] A battery case characterized by having a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its inner surface.
- [9] A battery case characterized by having a nickel plating layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.
- [10] A battery case characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.
- [11] A battery case characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer, a nickel layer as an intermediate layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.
- [12] A battery case as set forth in any of claims 8 to 11, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.
- [13] A battery case as set forth in any of claims 8 to 12,

wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.

- [14] A battery case as set forth in any of claims 8 to 13, and formed by a deep drawing, DI or DTR method.
- [15] A battery characterized by employing a battery case as set forth in any of claims 8 to 14 and packing its interior with cathode and anode active materials.